

Message Text

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ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 NEA-05 ISO-00 USIA-12 ABF-01 TRSE-00 OMB-01

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R 200438Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2131

C O N F I D E N T I A L ISLAMABAD 10014

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SCUL

SUBJECT: AIPS

REF: (A) STATE 212131 (B) LETTER ALLEN TO SOBER OCTOBER

26 (C) LETTER SOBER TO ALLEN OCTOBER 12

1. EMBASSY PLEASED BY PROPOSED DEPARTMENT MEETING WITH DR. RALPH BRAIBANTI, PRESIDENT AIPS, AND HAFEEZ MALIK ON NOVEMBER 30. HOPE YOU CAN REMOVE MISCONCEPTIONS NOW HELD BY MALIK.

2. EMBASSY POSITION REMAINS AS DISCUSSED PERSONALLY WITH CU/NEA AND LATER DETAILED IN CHARGE' LETTER TO ALLEN (OCTOBER 12). BASICALLY: (A) EMBASSY HAS NOT FORMALLY APPROVED AIPS, AND USG'S SUPPORT SHOULD BE CONTINGENT UPON BACKING OF REASONABLE SEGMENT AMERICAN ACADEMIC COMMUNITY; (B) EMBASSY AND GOP HAVE RESERVATIONS OVER COMPOSITION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. WE DO NOT BELIEVE ACADEMIC SUPPORT ENHANCED BY OVERLOADING COMMITTEE WITH ACADEMICS OF PAKISTANI ORIGIN. WE DO AGREE RPT DO AGREE THAT CULTURAL EXCHANGES BETTER SERVED WITHOUT QUOTA SYSTEM BUT BASED ON ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE.

3. USG SHOULD HOWEVER BE MINDFUL OF GOP APPREHENSIONS OF OUR SENDING TO PAKISTAN TOO MANY ACADEMICIANS WITH DECIDED PRO-INDIAN BIAS AS RESULT THEIR INABILITY TO

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TRAVEL, STUDY, AND DO RESEARCH IN INDIA. GOP SINCERELY

INTERESTED IN ENCOURAGING YOUNG AMERICAN SCHOLARS WHO
REALLY WANT TO SPECIALIZE IN PAKISTAN STUDIES.

4. AFTER LONG HIATUS, WE SHOULD BE ENCOURAGING
SOUND AND LEGITIMATE OPPORTUNITIES EXPAND PAKISTAN-US
CULTURAL AND EXCHANGE TIES. ALTHOUGH WE HAVE RESERVATIONS
ABOUT SOME ASPECTS OF AIPS AND THE PROMOTIONAL INTERESTS OF
HAFEEZ MALIK, WE SHOULD TRY OUR BEST TO WORK OUT ARRANGEMENT
WITH MALIK AND BRAIBANTI WHICH PROTECTS OUR INTERESTS.
SINCE AIPS HAS OBTAINED GOP SUPPORT, AND AIMS ARE
LAUDABLE, EMBASSY THINKS IT CAN BECOME VEHICLE FOR
ENHANCEMENT SCHOLARLY AMERICAN-PAKISTANI EXCHANGE.
SOBER

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